

COALITION *for* HEALTH FUNDING

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Washington, D.C.— The Coalition for Health Funding issues the following statement regarding HHS' reorganization and mass firing of staff.

The [Coalition for Health Funding](#) (CHF), an alliance of nearly 90 nonprofit organizations working to promote strong investments in the public health continuum, is sounding the alarm about the administration's recent actions to reorganize the Department of Health and Human Services, freeze funding, and dismantle essential programs that protect public health, provide health care for Americans, keep them healthy, and ensure America remains the global leader in developing new treatments and cures.

Today's announcement of the recent and pending dismissal of 20,000 HHS employes as part of the DOGE efforts to shrink the federal workforce will have real-world impacts for the health of all Americans. And it was done without consultation of public health experts, patient and health care provider communities, or even Congress.

To make matters worse, this is just one more example of the administration unilaterally deciding to not expend funds that Congress lawfully appropriated after bipartisan consensus. The recent spending freezes across HHS agencies, withholding of NIH research funding, and this week's clawing back of CDC and SAMHSA funding all put our country at risk. For example, just this week, state and local public health departments across the country have been forced to lay off staff who are on the front lines of battling measles outbreaks because the administration abruptly canceled CDC funding with zero warning.

We are gravely concerned about the long-term impacts on our public health infrastructure and on our ability to conduct research, monitor and defend against infectious disease, battle opioid and mental health epidemics, and deliver high-quality care to veterans, seniors, and other Americans.

CHF's mission is to advocate for robust and sustained investments in our health agencies, but at its core, funding must be spent to hire and retain expert, nonpartisan civil servants to faithfully execute Congressionally created programs through a rigorous, science-based approach.

CHF and our members call on the administration to work with Congress and the health care community to improve the workings of our agencies to make them more effective, efficient, and better deliver care to the American public. Thus far, we have only seen blunt unilateral approaches that will do the exact opposite, likely costing taxpayers more in the end, and America's health and economy will suffer as a result.

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